

GUN TALK

Quarterly Journal of the Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Association



SASKATCHEWAN GUN COLLECTOR'S ASSOCIATION

Founded 1961
Incorporated 1962

A patriotic, educational and non-profit organization of Canadian citizens, dedicated to the collecting of firearms and research into their history. Membership open to any reputable person.

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Area Directors will be named for the next issue.

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E D I T O R I A L

As you know, all memberships are payable on January 1st, 1964. It is this time of year that a member wonders just what he is getting for his money by staying a member of the S.G.C.A. I have always said that a collector will get just as much or as little as he wants from any organization, but there are certain things you get from the S.G.C.A. without even trying. This is GUN TALK and other services of the Association.

Take this magazine, GUN TALK. It has grown from a common newsletter to be THE OLDEST CONTINUALLY PUBLISHED COLLECTORS MAGAZINE IN CANADA. This is not a bad record for a young club such as ours. We have never missed a single edition, but we always manage to be a little late.

GUN TALK features cover every aspect of collecting, and carry every service that you can ask for. From listing stolen guns to giving free ads to the members. GUN TALK also carries the best articles for the average collector, with a section to please everybody. Do you realize that there has been over 150 pages of information in our magazine during the past year.

Aside from GUN TALK and other mailings we have a full calendar of events that make membership in the S.G.C.A. a profitable investment. These are three gun shows a year and a muzzle loading shoot every year. To get the full benefit from these you have to attend the shows. At the last show over 60 members attended. Not one of these members complained of not having a good time. We have social evenings and everything else that will make these shows more pleasant.

What will be new in 1964? We will continue to have all gun shows and events as in the past. GUN TALK will continue to be published and will get BIGGER AND BETTER. We will do everything possible to make a \$4.00 investment in the S.G.C.A. the best money you have ever spent.

When it comes right down to it, the S.G.C.A. needs members as much as the members need the S.G.C.A. The executive receive no salaries, they work for the good of the association. All they expect and need is the full support of all members in the coming year. With this support our association will remain the BEST IN CANADA.

F. Osipoff
Secretary,
S. G. C. A.
Editor of
GUN TALK

P R O V I N C E O F S A S K A T C H E W A N

Department of the Attorney General

RSM:RMB

Refer to file
CB 658

Regina, July 17, 1963.

Dear Sir:

Re: Saskatchewan Handgun Association
and Saskatchewan Gun Collectors
Association

Further to my letter of June 19, 1963, I have now received a reply to our inquiries to the R.C.M. Police, and the Honourable the Attorney General has approved both the Saskatchewan Handgun Association and the Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Association pursuant to the provisions of section 94 (4) (c) of the Criminal Code. The police suggest that they would consider issuing a permit in Form 42 to each reliable club member authorizing him to carry either firearm or firearms directed in the permit from his place of residence to any point in Saskatchewan for use in target practice in connection with a club shooting. This would not, of course, cover target practice anywhere in Saskatchewan other than on the premises of a club.

Presentation of this letter to the police force involved will establish that the clubs mentioned herein are approved by the Honourable the Attorney General.

Yours truly,

R. S. Meldrum /RMB (Signed)

R. S. Meldrum
Deputy Attorney General

Mr. C.H.J. Burrows & Co.,
Barristers and Solicitors,
Banner Building, Eleventh Ave.,
Regina, Sask.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

On the opposite page is a letter received by C.H.J. Burrows our solicitor. This letter was written for the benefit of the S.G.C.A. and for the Saskatchewan Handgun Association.

The importance of this letter to the S.C.G.A. is this. If you wish to obtain a pistol carrying permit you present the copy of this letter as published in the book to your local police and request a pistol carrying permit. As our association is approved by the Attorney General's department a permit will be issued for the transporting of pistols for ASSOCIATION SPONSORED ACTIVITIES ONLY. This will mean that you will not need a separate permit to carry for each gun show and shoot held during the year.

For the information of your local police, our association is incorporated in Saskatchewan and the incorporation papers are in Regina. The original letter is on file at the office of C.H.J. Burrows. If a photo copy of this letter is required contact the S.G.C.A. at Box 1334, Regina, Sask.

Should the local registrar of firearms (your local city police or R.C.M.P.) require further information refer them to Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Association, Box 1334, Regina, Sask

I will add just a few comments. The permit you receive will not allow unrestricted transporting of firearms, just for S.G.C.A. sponsored events.

This permit is only available to residents of Saskatchewan, and valid only in Saskatchewan.

EDITORS NOTE: I would be interested in a report from every person obtaining, or attempting to obtain a permit.

THE MEMBERS Write

November 10, 1963.

EDITOR: Sometime between September 27th and November 9th there was a breakin in my house here and a pistol stolen. It was a Hi-Standard cal. 22 Double Nine, Serial #1050043. I reported it to Don Parsons, local R.C.M.P. constable. He is of the opinion that it was juveniles as none of my other pistols were taken. Could you put a notice in the next issue of Gun Talk or find some way of letting the boys in S.G.C.A. know, to help keep an eye open for it.

Further description of pistol: White plastic grips, anodized aluminum frame and backstrap and blued cylinder and barrel.

Keep up the good work in Gun Talk and thanks for any assistance you can give. Hope to see you at the show in Winnipeg.
J. Taylor, Box 92, Lumsden, Sask.

EDITORS NOTE: Any information on this stolen gun should be referred to your local police, this association, or to Mr. J. Taylor.

November 30, 1963.

EDITOR: This is the first chance I have had to write since the gun show a week ago. I feel that it was most successful and that we can do even more than that this next year -----
----- it was just the wonderful response of all the fellows that got everything going and made it a success. R. S. White, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

EDITORS NOTE: Syd White deserves a real round of applause for his efforts in this show. It was mostly a one-man venture all the way, and if credit for this show is due, it should go to Syd.

EDITOR: A recent trip to Prince Albert has brought to light something that may be of interest to our Winchester Collectors and others. In a collection there was a 1894 Winchester rifle, cal. 25-35, with a brass insert located on the side of the butt. The insert is circular and reads "GUN LICENCE SKAG CO. 1901 778".

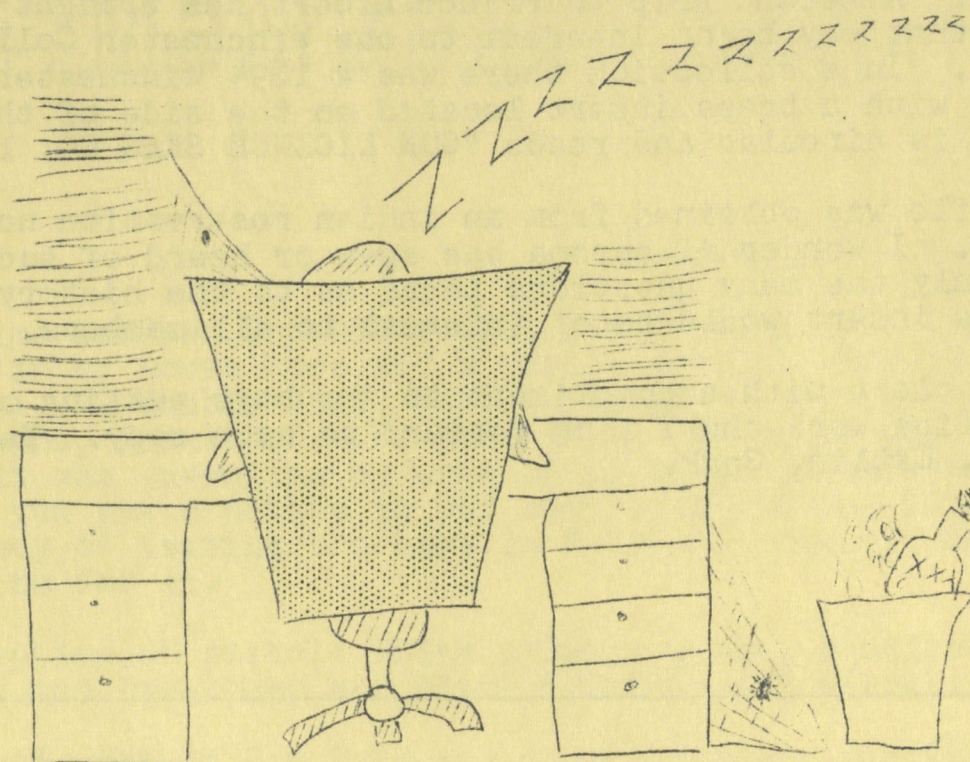
The rifle was obtained from an indian reservation north of Prince Albert. I wonder if anyone has seen or heard of such an insert. Certainly the many questions posed as to the history and origin of this insert would be of interest to all members.

I will close with a compliment to the boys putting out GUN TALK. It is fine work and I look forward to each copy. Yarmo Pohjavouri, Box 51, Estlin, Sask.

IS
YOUR
LETTER
HERE

?

THE SECRETARY'S DESK?



The secretary's desk will take on a new feature in forthcoming issues of Gun Talk. Along with the usual gossip, a brief summary of the minutes of executive meetings will be rendered. This is to show that we do a little work here (I think).

I don't know if all members are aware of this or not, but we meet once a month, on the first thursday of each month in Regina or Moose Jaw. We would welcome any member to attend these meetings and take part in the affairs of this association. There is usually an excellent lunch to be had and always a bull session after the meetings. Why not drop in next time you are in town.

It is at these meetings that all gun show plans are formulated and the necessary work of running an organization such as ours takes place. I will not go into great detail on the minutes, but will touch on the high points.

During the past few months we have agreed to purchase a new Gestetner Machine to do the printed work of the association. The old machine was hand operated and entailed quite a bit of work. A new machine was purchased for \$300.00 and we got \$100.00 for the old one. As you can see this put the association \$200.00 in debt at this time.

Aside from being electrically operated, the new machine has many other features, such as pump fed inking and better quality reproductions. The best thing is that we no longer have to turn the crank about 5,000 times each issue.

We are also looking into a better stapler for the magazine at this time. You have probably noticed the better stapling in the last two issues. We hope to have decided on the one we wish to buy after this issue.

One thing worth mentioning was a gift of some lovely flowers to Mrs. Osipoff for the work she does in addressing all the mailings that the association sends out during the year. She does a good job, and the flowers were much appreciated.

At this time plans are being formulated for the Saskatoon Gun Show, and we hope to have it all set up very soon. For those looking forward to the show it will probably be in March of 1964. It looks like this show will be better than the last Saskatoon Show, and will have the usual social and meeting. Plan on attending this one.

The rest of the time at the meetings was rather uneventful, except for minor fist fights among the executive. These arose mainly on points of order, or is it for the failing to order the beer. In all seriousness, we welcome any member to come in and attend our meetings. If you want location and time contact this association Box 1334, Regina, Sask.

The rest of the past three months has been spent by your secretary in rambling about the country a little. Lloyd Dobrescu and myself attended an Antique Gun Auction (or so the advertising said) on a farm near Bromhead, Sask. The ad stated 135 Antique Guns and 999,999 other VALUABLE ANTIQUES. Away we went in Lloyd's old half ton truck.

To prove that we were not alone in the venture, we met a few old collecting friends there, L. Tallentire, J. Terhart, J. Falloon, and a few of the other boys whose names escape me at this time.

Well, to make a long story short, the 135 guns (All Antique), consisted of about 115 old, weary, double shotguns, and the rest, choice 22's and Lee Enfields with a few parts missing. I did notice that the stock work on some of the guns was unique, and the stocks were hand crafted with a dull axe out of well seasoned fence poles. One of the choice items was a "Goose Gun" with a long, long barrel. Now this gun did not start out this way. Somebody had taken a regular single 12 gauge and welded about 14 inches on the end.

By far the best part of the auction was the auctioneer, who came very close to trying to eject Lloyd and myself when we had the supreme gall to bid a dollar on some of the rare gems. He really knew his guns, that boy. One gun, an old side hammer double shotgun was missing these side hammers. The auctioneer held it aloft and called "a really fine gun for shooting, in the new hammerless style". With that I retired and had some not so good coffee that the ladies were dishing up nearby.

It is worth mentioning that the 999,999 other valuable antiques were mostly nuts and bolts, set out in 10 pound lots. I saw about three items that qualified for antiques. I will add that apart from our rejected dollar bids, the members of the S.G.C.A. had a very slow time at the gun auction.

But in every dark moment there is a little good, the trip was not a complete disaster. We bought ourselves a few hundred pounds of potatoes and other fresh vegetables at good prices from a farmer who had a half ton loaded with produce.

One of the nicer trips was to the Gun Show at Winnipeg. Now, Syd White of Winnipeg did a real fine job of lining up this show, and I certainly had a good time. As with most shows in a new location, trading was a little slow, and the members did not exactly show up in thundering hordes, but the show was well worth attending. There were about 30 members present, with half entering displays.

The guns on display were very good, and I think that quality was the highest that I have seen at any show. The facilities were excellent and a crowd estimated at some 1000 viewed the exhibits. I think that in terms of coverage in news media, this was by far our best effort and the S.G.C.A. received its best publicity from this show.

I made an interesting discovery myself, I found out that the bars are open on Saturday and after the show made the rounds of a few of them with the other collectors. A night to remember (or to forget).

All in all, this was a very good show and it was a real pleasure to attend and meet the boys from Manitoba.

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SEASONS GREETINGS
FROM
THE
REGINA COIN EXCHANGE

A MINISTER OF BELHELVIE

by FITZGERALD

Just before the end of the Twenties a group of firearms students and sportsmen in co-operation with the military and gunsmiths of London got together a fund to erect a large bronz plaque in the Tower of London. The inscription on the plaque reads:-

To the Memory of the Reverend
Alexander John Forsyth
M.A., LL.D.
Minister of Belhelvie
Aberdeenshire

In 1805 he conducted experiments
in this Tower under the Master
General of Ordnance and in 1807
invented the percussion system
Which was adopted by the British
Army in 1839.

This tablet was erected in 1929
by admirers of his Genius.

Forsyth a minister and the son of a minister was born in 1768 and died in 1843. He was a great duck hunter and in season and out he played around with an unusual hobby. If he was alive today he would be, beyond any shadow of a doubt, an ardent handloader. Forsyth's ideas of improving his gunning and killing range was to experiment with gunpowders. He tended to concentrate on fulminates, those very very high explosions which first became known to the ancient alchemists in the early 1600's. Fulminates, however, reach their peak pressures too soon and the pressure reached is too high for use as propellents. This was not then fully understood and many experiments were carried out in attempts to cushion their initial shock. Fulminates of gold, silver, mercury and potassium chlorate were tried at different times and in different countries all to no avail.

In forsyth's case a different line was taken and this eventually led to success. Forsyth noted two things in the hunting field. First the flash from the pan and the resulting smoke very frequently alerted his prey and either caused them to take off or veer off. Secondly, he found that there was a fairly large time lag between pressing the trigger and igniting the main powder charge and this also made the killing of flying birds difficult since it was almost impossible to lead properly. Consequently, Forsyth experimented with fulminates in an attempt to decrease the ignition time of his guns. In the beginning he just used the fulminates in the pan rather than blackpowder, but more often than not it would not ignite and when it did it did not

prove to be very much better than the fine grain blackpowder. He was aware too that fulminates were much more prone to ignite or explode when struck a sharp blow, so he thought up an idea when instead of using the flints and battery he would use a hammer blow. At also about this time he thought that if he could explode the fulminate in a sealed pan all of the flame would go into the powder chamber and cause better ignition of the charge. Besides, there would be no blowback through the touch-hole and hence no loss of pressure in the propellant charge giving consequently a better muzzle velocity and a harder hitting shot charge.

Constant experiments led him to the development of the "Roller Magazine Lock". Better known today as "scent bottle lock". This lock held a charge of powdered fulminate and was fitted to the breech on a tapered plug. This plug had a hole drilled through its center and into the chamber, and was sealed on the outside. Between the seal and the chamber a second hole was drilled on top of the plug and about this the roller lock could be rotated (through 180 degrees). The bottom of the lock held a small magazine with the powdered fulminate and when it was turned upside down it threw a volumetric charge into the hole on the top of the plug. When it was turned back to the bottom position the top of the lock containing a moveable anvil or firing pin came into position over the top hole and fulminate charge. On pressing the trigger the hammer would strike this pin and explode the priming charge and ignite the blackpowder charge.

According to tradition Forsyth made his first successful lock about 1805 and the following year was called to London where the Master General of Ordnance set him up in a small laboratory and workshop in the Tower. Here Forsyth worked for many years, without any reward or remuneration. He was eventually requested to leave when there was a change in government.

Forsyth's patent which was taken out in 1807 expired in 1821 and immediately there came on the market a number of new ideas, such as tube primers, the Maynard tape primer and eventually the percussion cap. By 1825 it was almost impossible to buy a flint-lock if one wanted a high class sporting weapon, but it was not until five years later that the British Army considered the issue of percussion locks but it was not until 1840 that the first issue of percussion weapons were made. It was four years later that the first American regiment was similarly armed.

Just before his death Forsyth received the sum of 200 pounds from his country for his invention and some time later his heirs received another thousand.

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WINCHESTER SINGLE SHOT RIFLES

by Lew Yearout

REPRINT FROM MONTANA ARMS COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION
-----"M.A.C.A. CHATTER"-----

One day I mentioned to a good friend, who collects such rifles, (I didn't) "I know of a few Winchester single Shot rifles -- that I can buy for cash, would you be interested in them?" Well, to make a long story short. I bought those Single Shot Winchesters. In fact, I bought them from Walt Anderson, a fellow member and fellow collector you all know. I brought the single shots to Great Falls and hung them on the wall. My good friend that I originally bought them for---looked them over--- and he replied I gave too much for them. To make another long story short, I decided to collect them.

That is how I became a Winchester single shot rifle collector -- and now I am sort of glad I paid Walt too much for them. If I had bought them cheap then I today probably wouldn't have a single shot on the wall, I would probably have sold them long ago. As it is I paid too much for them so I had no alternative but to start collecting them.

On the other hand, I since that day have found that the Winchester single shot is quite an intriguing gun. It was probably made in more calibers than any gun before its time--or since. Some well known authorities on the subject say it is possible to collect over seventy of these rifles and not have a duplicate caliber. After considerable research I have come to the conclusion that list could go to nearly ninety and still not have a duplicate gun by caliber. As such this makes the gun a top collection item on anyone's list. How many of you have ever heard or ever seen a complete collection of Winchester single shot rifles? I personally have never heard of such a collector--or such a collection. Yet, it is possible, and such may exist.

We, here in Montana are not overly blessed by an abundance of Winchester single shots. There are a few, but most of them are well used, although every now and then a nice one shows up. I said it was an intriguing gun and it is just that. Did you ever stop to think just how many variations exist in this one model? They are considerable in number, in fact, so considerable in quantity that it would take several pages to begin to cover the subject adequately. But here are just a few of the facts.

To begin with it is not a gun of high production. Total production reached serial No. 139725. But, here again this is not conclusive as well on to nearly, or probably 50% of the last 10,000 were sold as actions or unassembled guns only. Whether you know it or not Serial No. 1 was not even an American cartridge. It was made up for the .45 Eley. Did you know this gun was made in barrel lengths from 15 inches to 36 inches? Did you stop to think just how many of them were made in the long 36 inch

barrel? It is safe to assume that less than 300 such guns were ever made. Did you ever see one with a $\frac{3}{4}$ octagon barrel? No, I haven't either, but at least one was made. Did you ever see a Patch Box on the stock of such a rifle, they made at least one. Did you ever consider the different weight of barrels put out by the factory. You have them in $\frac{1}{2}$, No. 2, No. 3, No. $3\frac{1}{2}$, No. 4 and No. 5. Naturally you will not see many in the No. 5 category. In fact, if it were possible to see all of the No. 5 barrels ever put out by the factory it would not take you perhaps a couple of minutes to count them all. Have you ever seen an original barrel chambered for the .22 Hornet? How many of you have seen this gun in a .20 gauge shotgun? Its not a rare gun-- although you would have to consider it scarce. Did you ever stop to consider the feasibility of chambering this gun in the large .50 x $3\frac{1}{4}$ Sharps Straight? They did, they made at least two, perhaps more. Have you ever seen a gun in the .577 Eley? Me neither, but they made at least 8 of them. How about the .50 Eley? They made at least 88 of them. How about the 30-06 and a few other rimless cases-- like the .236 U.S. Navy, the 7/m/m. The 30-06 is scarce, perhaps rare, but they made over 425 of them in the 30-06, whereas there are many others, that are more rare. Ever see a barrel in the .22 B.B. Cap, or the .22 extra Long, or .22 Win. Auto, 9m/m Mauser, 43 Spanish, .44 Comblain, 145 Sharps, .50-90 S.S.

In fact, the Winchester Single Shot Rifle is the closest old gun that you could actually class as "A Collectors Dream". No matter what you consider, caliber or otherwise, you just name it -- Winchester probably made a single shot like that.

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GUN SHOW

AT SASKATOON

MARCH '84

DETAILS SOON

INTERIOR BALLISTICS

by 'the gunner'

Ballistics is a subject that covers a very wide field. In fact, the field is so large that no single man can ever hope to be truly qualified in all its phases. This particular subject covers everything from small arms, their design and construction, to the launching of interplanetary rockets. Mathematics, metallurgy, chemistry and engineering are but some of the functions covered. Another is navigation which at first glance would hardly seem to apply but which is of prime importance where very great ranges apply. Still another is astronomy. The latter, of course, seems to be very far fetched but stop a moment and consider. Big Bertha, which was used by the Germans during the First World War, and consider too some of the intercontinental missiles. Suppose in the latter case that we were to launch one of these from Regina to travel across the world to strike Moscow, and suppose it took sixty minutes to make the journey, where would we aim? Not at where Moscow is now, but rather where Moscow will be in one hour from now, for we must not forget that in a period of one hour our target has revolved one twenty fourth of one day which is a very considerable distance when measured in miles.

However, this is digressing from our subject which is 'Interior Ballistics' as applied to small arms. Here we are mainly concerned with such details as ignition, powder burning, pressure, twist of rifling, bullet fit, erosion, corrosion, velocity, wear, recoil, muzzle jump, vibration and the barrel and action strength. In opposition to nearly all other forms of locomotion the bullet derives all of its energy from inside the barrel. Rockets, automobiles and planes receive a continuing boosting of energy as they travel. The period of elapsed time, from the moment the trigger releases the sear to the emergence of the bullet from the barrel is a small fraction of a second but may be divided into smaller but very definite periods. These are in the order of occurrence; 1. Lock Time, 2. Ignition Time, and 3. Barrel Time.

Lock Time

When the trigger is squeezed it depresses the sear which releases the firing pin or striker. The mainspring then takes over, pushing the striker forward to indent the primer and crush the priming mixture. From the point of view of our subject the energy of the striker is of prime importance, that is its weight and velocity. If the energy is not high enough then the priming mixture will not be properly crushed and this may result in either a hangfire or a missfire. In the case of a hangfire a difference of 100 feet per second in muzzle velocity may occur, giving a poor order of accuracy. If the energy is too great the primer can be pierced resulting again in low pressures, lower muzzle velocities and gas escape to rear with the usual attending dangers.

To the marksman the shorter the lock time is, the more he is pleased. He fires when his aim is correct and a long lapsed period between the release pressure on his trigger and ignition may give enough time for his aim to wander. In the case of the S.M.L.E. the lock time is approximately .0058 seconds.

Ignition

When the priming mixture is crushed it "explodes". This small pellet of a solid material turns into a white hot gas in less than a hundred thousand part of a second and it generates a very high pressure, about 3000 pounds per square inch. These hot high pressure gases penetrate the areas in and about the powder grains, igniting them. As a rule the primer must generate enough flame to fill the cartridge case with sufficient heat to ignite all the powder charge simultaneously. It is not enough for proper ignition to ignite only those powder grains adjacent to the flash hole. With the large capacity cartridge cases and coarse powders such as 4831 and Norma 205 a stronger priming mixture is required than with fine grain or nitroglycerin powders. With the proper mating of powder, primer and cartridge case ignition time is in the region of .0002 seconds.

When the powder is ignited it begins to burn and give off heat and gas. The gas generates pressure and this in turn causes the powder to burn faster and faster. The gas at high pressure starts the walls of the cartridge case to swell out against the chamber, performing a dual function; sealing off the breech, so that no gases escape to the rear and into the shooters face and secondly a minor type of function releasing the bullet. The bullet having weight does not immediately jump forward but rather moves forward slowly its speed increasing every fraction it moves. At the moment that it is released from the cartridge case and before it is fully seated in the bore, some gases rush by and precede it out the muzzle. It is at this point that erosion takes place. The extremely hot, high pressure fast flowing gases erode away the lead or throat of the bore in much the same manner as a power hose washes away sand or silt.

Barrel Time

The bullet moving forward enters the lead and is forced into the rifling. If the bullet is of the correct diameter it will seal the bore or if it is smaller and of a soft material its base will be impacted into the forward portion swelling out the sides and consequently obturating (sealing) the bore. Meanwhile, the gases are still burning, raising the pressure and exerting more and more on the base of the bullet, giving it acceleration. The peak of the pressure is generally reached between the time the bullet completely enters the bore and five inches down the bore. Here in determining peak pressure such things as friction, (comparative weight and hardness of the bullet and its fit to the barrel), powder burning rate and type of powder (nitro-glycerin and fine grain powders having the fastest burning rate and hence reaching peak pressures quicker).

Forcement or the amount of force necessary to seat the bullet in the bore plays a very important part in the rate at which the pressure rises and in the amount of chamber pressure generated. From the point of view of calculations it is a rather nebulous figure and nearly impossible to compute mathematically but can be very easily shown by practical demonstrations.

As the bullet continues up the barrel the space behind it increases, in the beginning only the cartridge case was behind but as it moves forward the volume keeps increasing and consequently the space into which the gases must expand also increase, meaning that more and more gas must be generated to keep up the (same) pressure. After a period the pressure drops off and no more acceleration is added. However, pressure though diminishing still remains on the base of the bullet until it is out of the barrel. With a rifle barrel thirty inches long and muzzle velocity of 3000 feet per second we would notice a drop of some 300 feet per second in muzzle velocity if we cut the barrel off to twenty inches.

The time taken from the explosion or detonation of primer to the emergence of the bullet from the muzzle is known as barrel time. And, again in the case of a rifle having a muzzle velocity of 3000 feet per second it may be ascertained that the bullet travels one foot in one three thousand part of a second or the twenty four inches of the barrel in one fifteen hundred part of a second. Now since the bullet starts from a state of rest and leaves the barrel at 3000 feet per second its barrel time should be one half of one fifteen hundred or seventeen hundred and fifty feet per second. This assumption is not exactly correct as the bullet is accelerated up the barrel and has its highest rate of gain in the beginning of its travel, consequently, the average velocity would be more like 2000 feet per second and barrel time would be .001 seconds approximately.

If we add Lock Time, Ignition Time and Barrel Time together, we get a total lapsed time of approximately .007 seconds. In case of pistols and revolvers and some specially made target weapons the total lapse time covering these three subjects can be half of what is just quoted. Normally these times run from .003 to .007 and in the case of a hangfire these times can be increased by as much as .04 seconds.

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SASKATOON IN MAR.

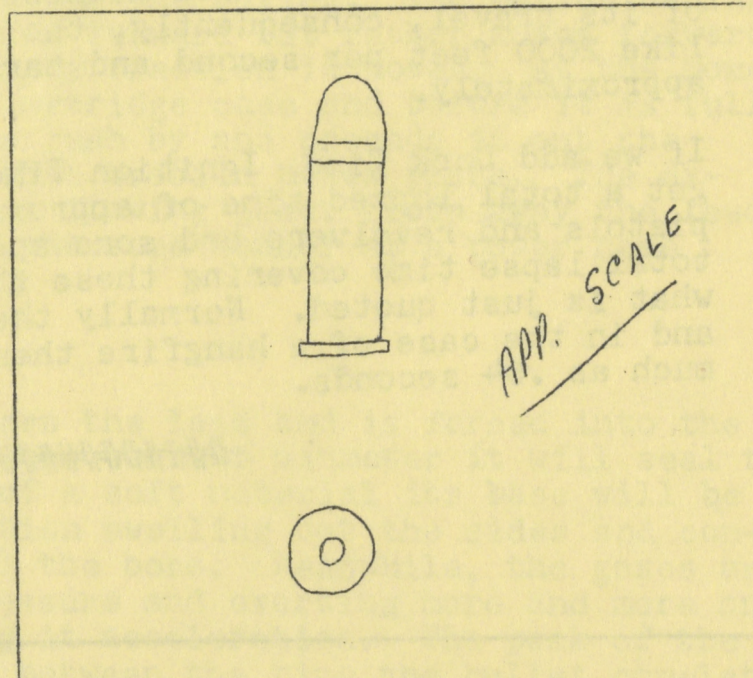
Cartridge collectors Take Note: Have you been looking over the boxes of 1000 No. 1½ pistol primers that C.I.L. is putting out. These are the two tone green and brown boxes that contain 10 boxes of 100 primers each. In looking over the list of cartridges that this primer is used in I noticed that the last cartridge reads "35 SMITH AND WESSON". On the individual 100 boxes inside this last cartridge reads "38 SMITH AND WESSON". These are all from the same lot, and in fact every such box the writer has inspected reads the same.

Now most all collectors know that there is indeed a 35 S & W cartridge but it is hardly a popular cartridge, and one does not come upon it every day. It seems more likely that there has been a GOOF at C.I.L. I feel reasonably sure that the cartridge on the outside container should read 38 S & W, as it did on the old boxes.

Who says that mistakes are not possible in the modern day and age. It seems that we are back to the days of the C.K.L. "CLOT". Should anybody be interested in this variation it might be wise to pick up a carton of these primers and tuck them away. THEY COULD BE A RARE C.I.L. ITEM IN A FEW YEARS. Remember this article when you are looking for one of these boxes in 1973.

While on the subject of cartridges I have a rather interesting box in my collection that I would appreciate some information on. It is a buff colored box by ELEY BROS. of London, containing "Solid Brass Central Fire Cartridges for Rifle" The cartridge (drawing shown) is described as ".360 No. 5" and is listed to contain "POWDER, 14 GRS. No. 6 -- BULLET (SOLID) 134 GRS." The box contained 50 cartridges and is of the early Elly type with the metal studs stapling the ends together.

Any information on this cartridge would be appreciated and published in this magazine.



While on the subject of interesting cartridge boxes I have another box that you may find interesting. This is a box of ".280 ROSS SPORTING" cartridges. The box is of the familiar type such as early Winchester cartridges are found and it has the usual sliding top. The interesting thing about the box is that it contains ".280 ROSS SHARP POINTED COPPER TUBE" cartridges "LOADED AND GUARANTEED BY THE ROSS RIFLE CO. QUEBEC, CANADA".

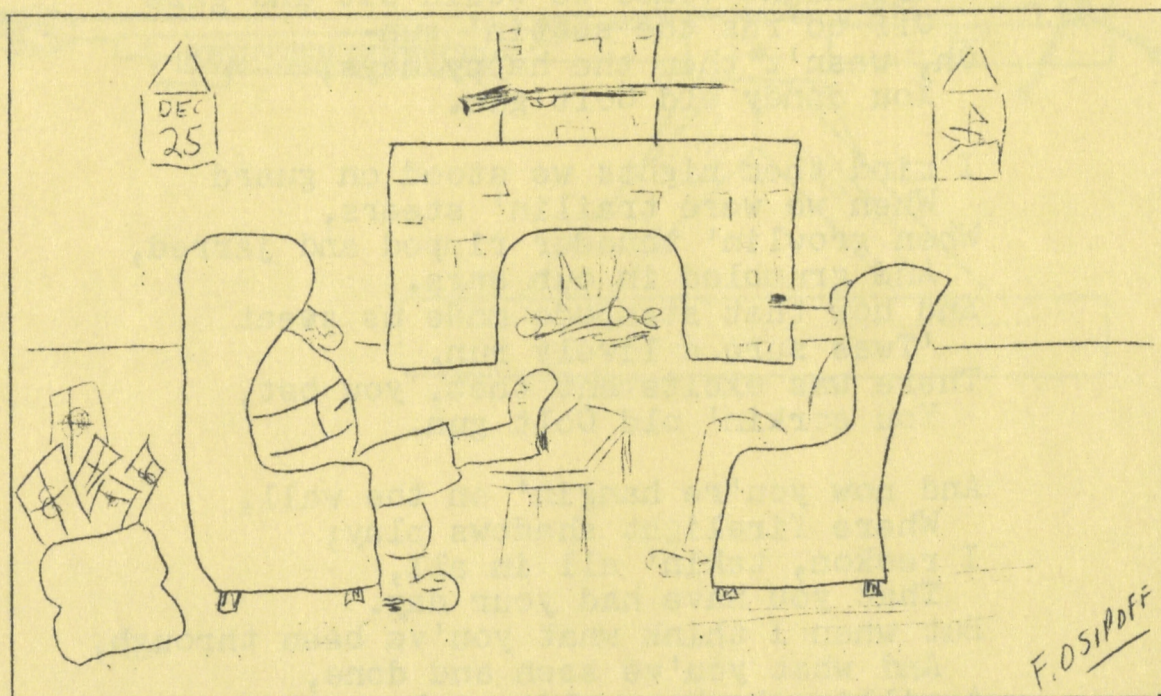
The box contained 20 cartridges and is a light buff colour, with a darker buff label. The back of the cartridge box is sealed with a guarantee seal, similar to those found on early Winchester boxes, but a Ross guarantee of course.

The cartridge itself is the .280 Ross with a bright metal bullet and a copper tip. In practice the copper tip was to be the expanding plug. The cartridge is headstamped "U.S.C.Co 280 ROSS".

I have handled several of these boxes and have owned a couple, and the cartridge is not uncommon in collections, but I will say that either the box or the cartridge is a desirable addition to any CANADIANA collection.

I will close this article with a wish for a Happy Holiday for all my friends in the S.G.C.A. and the hope that I will see them all in the New Year. Best Wishes to you all!!

#####



— WE WERE LOW OVER PRINCE ALBERT
WHEN OUT JUMPS A 12 POINT BUCK —
— OUT CAME THE 30-30 AND —

T H E O L D C O L T G U N

by E. A. Brininstool

You've been a good old pal to me
in all the years gone by;
You've saved my skin from many a spree
When Death was lurkin' nigh.
You're rusted some, and battered, too,
But I ain't kickin' none,
'Cus theres a heap I owe to you,
You dandy old Colt gun.

I packed you on the cattle trail
Way back in '86,
And never knowed you yet to fail
When I got in a fix.
You shot the lights out more'n once
When we struck town fer fun,
And done a heap of other stunts,
You bully old Colt gun.

When my old paws close on yer grip,
I seem to see once more,
Them prairie stretches in "The Strip",
And the old bunkhouse door,
Where night-times we would sit and gaze
Off to'rds the settin' sun--
Oh, wasn't them the happy days,
You dandy old Colt gun.

I mind them nights we stood on guard
When we were trailin' steers,
When growlin' thunder ripped and jarred,
And grumbled in our ears.
And how that stampede made us sweat
'Twas sure a lively run.
There was excitement then, you bet,
You corkin' old Colt gun.

And now you're hangin' on the wall,
Where firelight shadows play;
I reckon, takin' all in all,
That you have had your day.
But when I think what you've been through,
And what you've seen and done,
A million bucks would not buy you,
You bully old Colt gun.

- - - - -

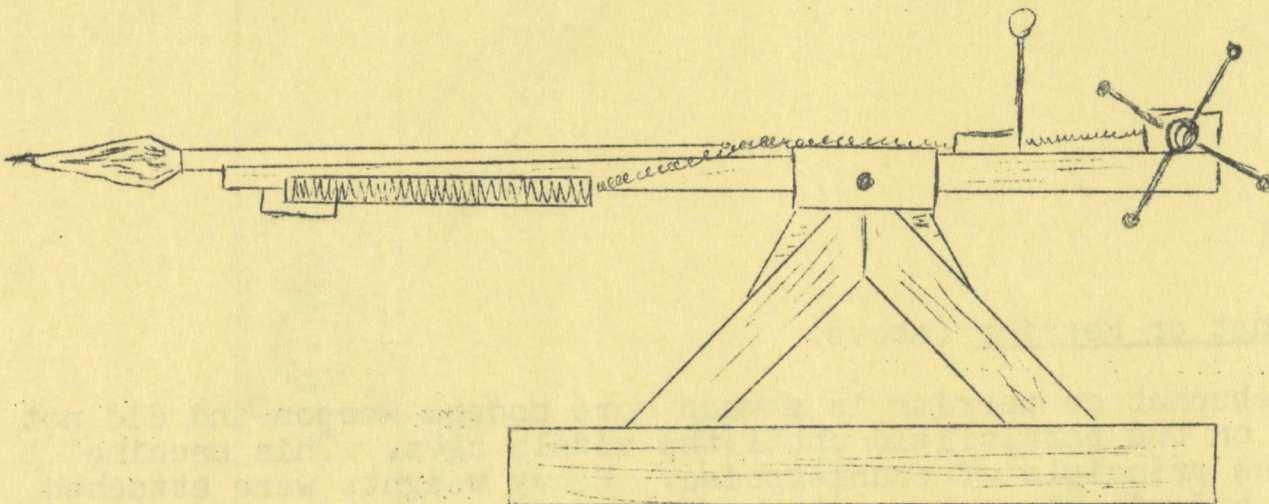
THIS POEM HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTED BY JACK GILLING, OF BOISSEVAIN,
MANITOBA, AND IS FROM AN OLD BOOK ON THE COLT GUNS.

ENGINES OF WAR

by Fitzgerald

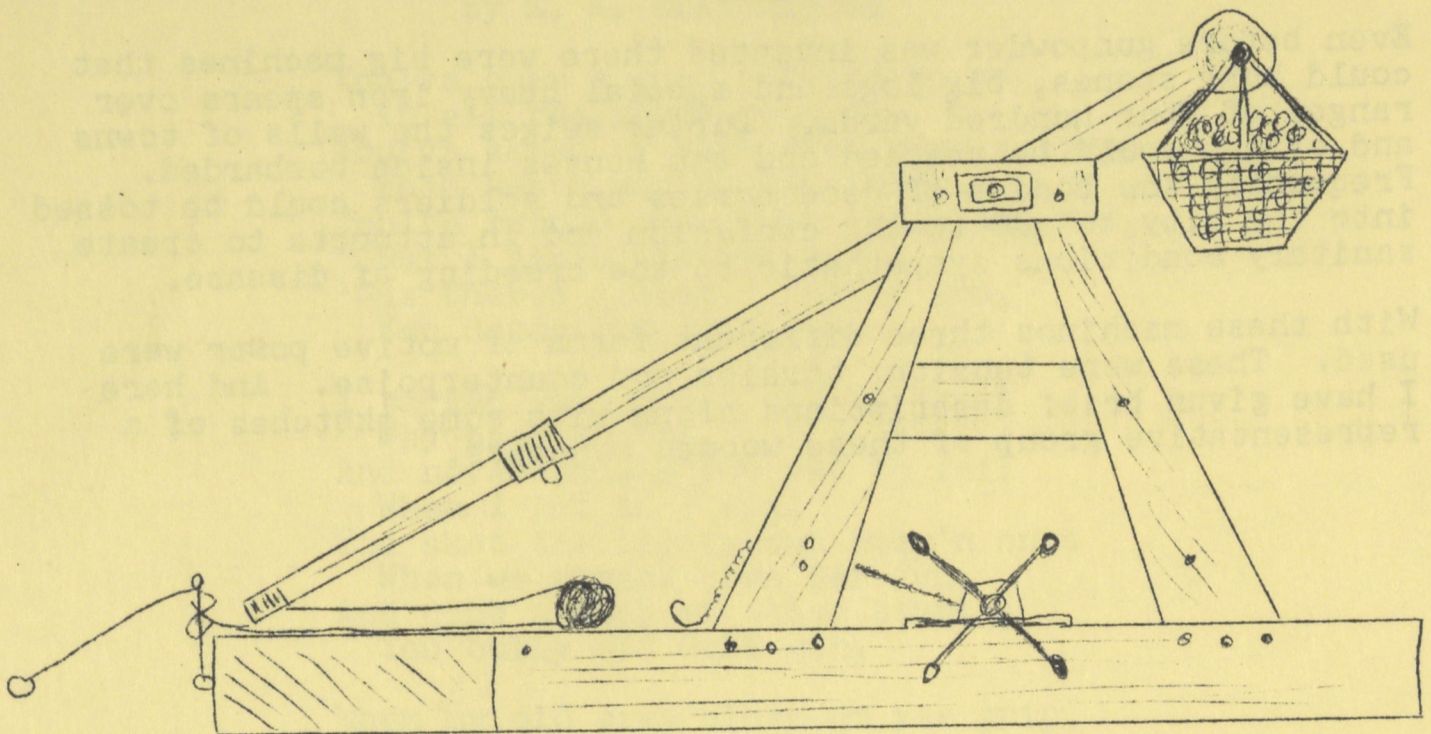
Even before gunpowder was invented there were big machines that could hurl stones, big logs and special heavy iron spears over ranges of four hundred yards. During sieges the walls of towns and cities could be reached and the houses inside bombarded. Frequently the bodies of dead horses and soldiers could be tossed into the city to add to the confusion and in attempts to create sanitary conditions sympathetic to the breeding of disease.

With these machines three different forms of motive power were used. These were tension, torsion and counterpoise. And here I have given brief descriptions along with some sketches of a representative group of these wooden monsters.



Ballista or Scorpion

The ballista or scorpion was very similar in construction and operation to the crossbow. Some of these very, very large and others, especially in the Roman legions, small enough to be operated by two men. The larger ones could hurl 50 pound stones over a range of a quarter of a mile.

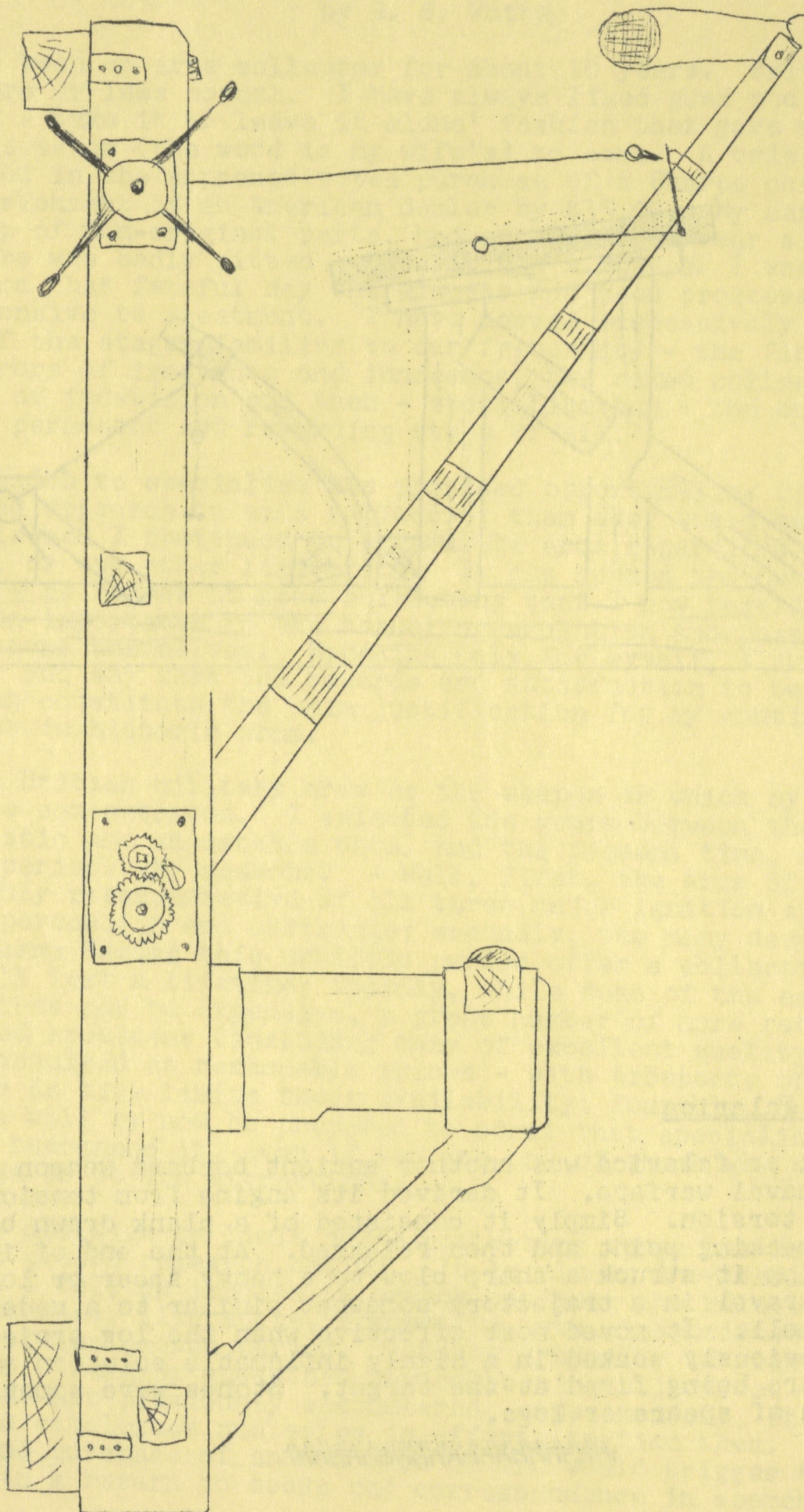


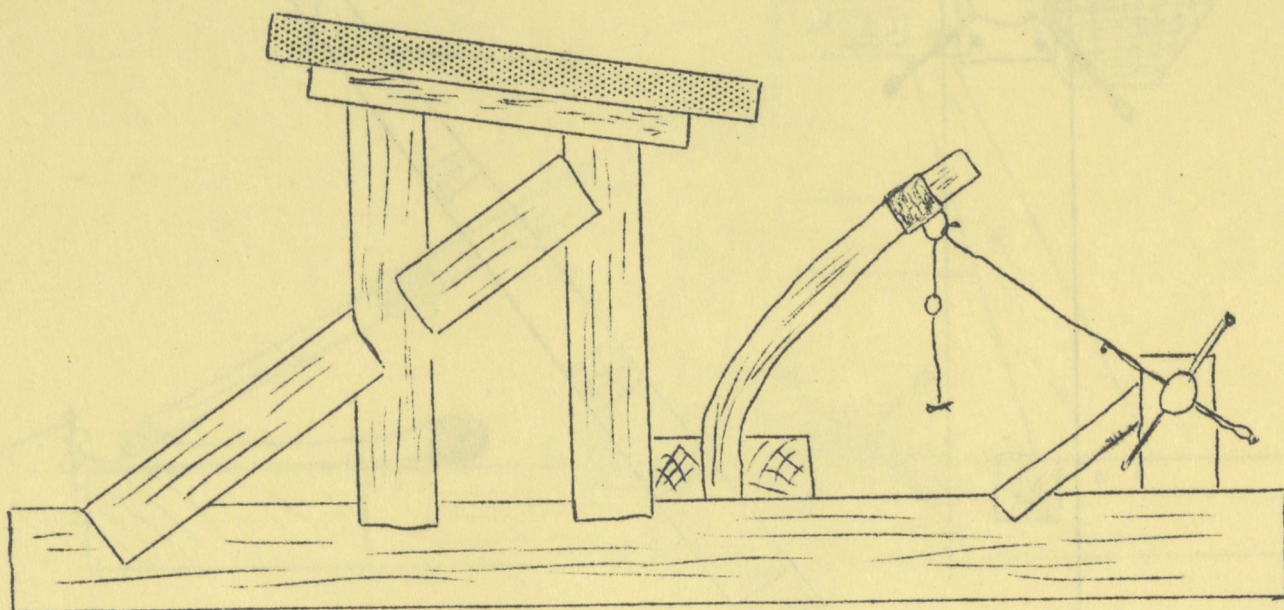
Trebuchet or Perrier (above)

The trebuchet or perrier is a much more modern weapon and did not appear on the battlefield until the middle ages. This machine used the principle of counterpoise. Heavy weights were attached to one end of a long bar and the other end containing the cup was drawn down by winch and held by a quick slip hook.

Catapult (opposite page)

This was an engine of war that depended on torsion to generate energy to hurl stones over long distances. In the common form of the catapult a moving arm was gripped by cords secured to a strong wooden framework. The cords were twisted under very heavy pressure (torsion) supplying the motive power to the moving arm. The moving arm was drawn back and held by a catch. The sling or cup was then loaded and a strong quick pull on the release cord started the missile on its way. The tension cords were made of rope, horsehair or animal sinews. These ropes were kept in fine state of elasticity by some secret and now forgotten process.





Springal or Falarica

The springal or falarica was another ancient bombard weapon mainly used in naval warfare. It derived its engine from tension rather than torsion. Simply it consisted of a plank drawn back to almost breaking point and then released. At the end of its forward motion it struck a sharp blow to a heavy spear or log. This would travel in a trajectory somewhat similar to a modern artillery shell. It moved most effective when the log projectile had been previously soaked in a highly inflammable solution and ignited before being fired at the target. Stones were sometimes used in lieu of spears or logs.

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SOME RANDOM THOUGHTS ON SPECIALISATION

by R. S. White

I have been an arms collector for about 10 years. Prior to that I was more or less normal. I have always liked guns and shooting, but in a 'take it or leave it alone' fashion that gave no hint of the obsession (the word is my wife's) to come. A trip to New York resulted in the unpremeditated purchase of a Sharps carbine and the enrichment of an American dealer by \$35.00. My carbine was made up of non-original parts, had an incorrect rear sight and the bore was badly pitted - but, it was a Sharps! I was 'in' -- and from that fateful day the disease has been progressive and unresponsive to treatment. I have passed successively through most of the stages familiar to our fraternity - the first purchase, the errors of ignorance and innocence, the mixed collection, the period of indecision and then - specialisation - the most satisfying, permanent and rewarding stage of all.

My decision to specialise has provided opportunities for a more detailed approach to arms collecting than ever would have been possible had I continued to accumulate arms regardless of type, period, or any other limitation. It has opened the door to research - an aspect of arms collecting that I now regard as being equal in importance to the actual accumulation and possession of the weapons themselves. Speaking only for myself, I would go even further and say that the rewards and satisfaction to be found in research constitute the main justification for my continued investment in historic arms.

I chose British military arms as the weapon in which my interests would be concentrated. I selected the years between the mid 1700's (an elastic and adjustable date) and the present time, as the source period. My reasons? - Well, first, the arms of these years are richly representative of all three major ignition systems - flint, percussion and cartridge; secondly, the many developments in firearms during this prolific period offer a collecting challenge that will last a lifetime; thirdly, while some of the earlier and rarer items may be expensive, a great number of more recently developed specimens (including many of excellent quality) still may be acquired at reasonable prices - with prospects of increases in value as time limits their availability; fourthly, but why go on? You will by now be prepared to admit that specialisation has much to recommend it, even if you are one of these who have not yet given in to its attractions.

Once the decision to limit one's collecting range has been taken, the move toward research begins. It is almost inevitable. In my own case I felt an impulse to branch out into the related areas of accessories, literature, ammunition, etc., associated with weapons of the chosen period. I began gradually to acquire a "library". Reading unearthed new collecting objectives - types of weapons not previously encountered, experimentals, etc. and back I went to catalogues and sales in efforts to find them. The discovery and purchase of an odd type of arm would trigger the resulting in a return to books and correspondence in search of the

required data. And so it would go on - and still does - all within defined boundaries of interest. At times attention may center upon the lack of the correct bayonet for a certain musket or rifle, or upon the bayonet that needs only the right rifle, (like the button that needed only the right shirt). I have one bayonet that **requires** only a Lancaster oval-bore Engineer rifle to be complete in all respects. And, for the really ambitious, there is the desirability of possessing a specimen of the correct ammunition for each arm. The possibilities are almost endless, once the boundaries have been set in order to permit maximum attention to detail.

I like to think of specialisation as "collecting in depth". It encourages the serious student of firearms to seek out all the available data respecting the items in his selected field of interest. This is not possible to the same extent when one's interests are thinly spread over an unlimited range of unrelated items. I believe that specialisation intensifies one's interest in arms collecting. Not only does the collector find pleasure in seeing his collection grow along planned lines, but he enjoys the additional advantage of more detailed knowledge of the weapons themselves, their development and the parts they have played for good and ill in the pages of history. And - superimposed upon visual and technical interest, there are the new and interesting views of history itself, glimpsed through the doors that weapons research has opened.

One does not have to be an expert to find satisfaction in specialisation. Nor is it necessary to limit one's interest too narrowly or too quickly. I think that the best approach is one in which the collector eventually becomes aware of his steadily increasing interest in a certain segment of this immense field and recognises the symptoms. From this point onward the disease will rapidly reach an acute stage for which there is no known cure.

MEMBERS ADS
ARE STILL FREE
IN THE SWAP SHOP

THE LEN REID COLLECTION -

as shown to Les Smith

Saskatoon collectors are fortunate in many ways, but one of their best advantages is having a walking and talking reference library. Many a time, when a question arises about a Colt, a Smith & Wesson, or some name not even heard of before, I have heard the reply "call Len Reid - he will know". And, Len usually does know and can give you the history and description of the piece in question, plus the model preceding it and the model following it.

The other day Len brought out a sporting magazine dated 1929 and mentioned that it was just about that time he started getting interested in firearms. We wouldn't say that Len has collected a great quantity of handguns in the last twenty-five years or more, and you certainly wouldn't hear him exclaim that he is "an advanced collector with over 300 pieces" but he has, long ago decided on what pieces he wanted and has kept after those pieces for a long time, longer than when most novices held their first handgun. He has a patience to find the type and quality of an arm he wants that few collectors possess.

I must here, tell a story on Len and I hope he will not mind. Some time ago, when I visited him home, a neighbor also was visiting him and in the course of conversation his friend said he would run home and get the old 45 revolver he had, to show us. Len had heard about this gun and I guess had thought, like the rest of us, there were few good guns around within reaching distance from one's own home. Well, our friend handed Len this gun in its original holster and Len sat there for quite a few moments shaking his head. Then he said, over and over, that he just could not believe it; he had handled dozens of Frontier colts, but this one so near was the best Old Model Frontier he had ever seen - serial number in the four thousands (something like 4003). He started the bidding off with a new car, but his neighbour was going to hold onto it as a family souvenir.

Len's collection can be divided into roughly six groups. His first ambition is to gather the seven different breach actions of derringers and now has five of this group - the Wheeler Derringer, the Williamson, the Remington single shot, the Southener single shot and the Remington over and under.

His percussion group includes the Colt 60 Army, the tightest gun I've ever seen. The Colt 49 pocket, with a 5 in. barrel and one with a 4 in. barrel. A lovely Side Hammer Root model with almost 100% bluing and an English made Pepperbox.

In the Smith & Wesson line he has a most excellent model of the number one, a fully engraved model of the baby Russian and 1½ Model and the first model of the Safety Hammerless. It would become repetitious to describe all of these guns as in excellent condition as all of them are. This is one of the musts that Len looks for in choosing a gun he wants. I remember seeing a very desirable S & W model passed up by him because one of the grips had a crack in it.

In another group that could be classed as odds and ends, there is a Mark VI Webley, again in excellent condition, and the Stevens Diamond Model single shot; a Royal Irish Webley model and even a Belgium 7 mm pinfire.

The shooting guns include a S & W K.22 masterpiece; a Colt 32 Police Positive; a 38 Enfield; and an air pistol for the basement. I have missed a few pieces, I am sure, because the reporter was too busy looking and not paying proper attention to the note pad.

Len says he hasn't any long arms to speak of, but we saw quite a few butts hidden in a corner and one of them was a nice Colt Lightning; another a 73 Springfield carbine; and I know there is a 22 of some make, and a shotgun.

There is a vast difference in listing off a great quantity of guns in a general collection and a specialty collection, as the type that Len Reid has gathered. To be fully appreciated one has to spend an afternoon with our talking reference library, for I am sure Len has lived up to that old saying - that to be a student of firearms you should get a book for each gun you buy. For if Len hasn't the information at his fingertips, he has it in his gun books - a true student of the hobby and a collector's collector.

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33

MEMBERSHIPS

ARE DUE

NOW

THE HUDSON BAY FUSIL

by R. Phillips

It was the fur trade that first focused the interest of Europeans on the interior of Canada. Of special interest to collectors today are the "trade guns" which were associated with this early era of our historical development.

Many types of trade guns reached our shores from France and England. Most commonly encountered nowadays is the Hudson's Bay Company musket or "fusil". A "price list" of the early 1800's notes that a four-foot fusil was valued at 12 to 14 beaver; a three and a half foot fusil at 12 to 14 beaver; and a three foot fusil at 10 to 14 beaver.

The typical H.B.C. fusil described here falls into the 1840-1900 period. A rather odd fact is that both the flintlock and percussion ignition systems were contemporary, with flintlocks dated as late as 1870 turning up. Percussion fusils entered the trade around 1840 and this writer has seen one dated "1900". As late as 1940, these fusils were being traded by the H.B.C. in Canada.

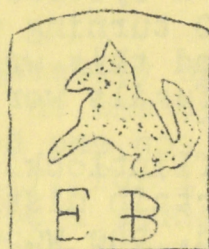
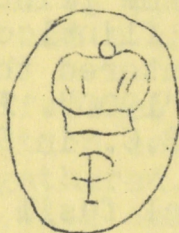
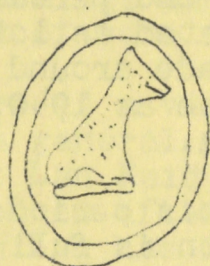
Be it flintlock or percussion, the typical fusil of this period has certain distinguishing characteristics. The weapon is full stocked, the wood running the entire length of the barrel. The lock, often of the British military type (surplus production) is about six inches long and one inch wide. The weapon is a smooth bore of .56 caliber, or 24 gauge. Barrel length varies from about 24 inches to 36 inches, with probably the most common being 30 inches. The rear six to eight inches of the barrel, which is fastened to the stock by a bolt passing through a short square tang, is octagonal, with the remainder being round. Occasionally one will come across a fusil with the wood banded about an inch from the muzzle with a thin brass band, about half an inch wide.

Perhaps the most prominent feature of the H.B.C. fusil is the counter lock plate -- a brass dragon with a very pronounced circle towards the rear, with a total length of about six inches. Of special interest too, is the unusually large iron trigger guard, made so large in order to accommodate a mitted hand. The butt plate is invariably of brass.

The H.B.C. fusil was manufactured by a host of London and Birmingham gunmakers. Possibly the largest output came from E. Barnett, Parker, Field and Company, and I. Hollis and Sons.

Distinguishing marks include an H.B.C. trademark -- a seated fox above the initials "E.B." on barrel, or lockplate, or both; and a proof -- a circle-enclosed crown surmounting a V, P or Q.

Most of the H.B.C. trade fusils that come to hand these days bear the scars of rough and ready usage. Rare, indeed, is the fusil in good or better condition, and the collector fortunate enough to corral one realizes one of his fondest dreams.



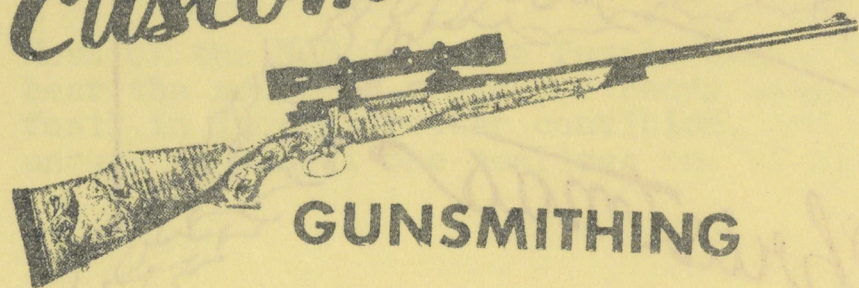
MARKINGS

Merry Christmas

TO ALL
MEMBERS
FROM THE
S. G. C. A.



Custom



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WANTED: Cartridges, swords, bayonets, daggers, etc. Have cartridges for trade and sale. F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg St., Regina, Sask.

WANTED: Springfield actions and Enfield actions. S. J. Kirby, 1340-D, Grace St., Regina, Sask.

TRADE OR BUY: Have Guns, Bayonets, Ammunition, Cap Badges and War Medals. Will trade or buy. R. R. Gaudry, 4408 - 2nd Avenue N., Regina, Sask. Phone 568-4879.

WANTED: Bayonet for 1859 Snider Enfield, also square tapered bayonet for 41 Swiss Army rifle. Will trade 24 Ga. Eley shot shells for 4, 8, 14 or 32 ga. shells. Lloyd Furman, Box 127, Frenchman Butte, Sask.

FOR SALE: S.G.C.A. CRESTS, \$3.00 each. Write S.G.C.A. BOX 1334, Regina, Sask.

DESPERATELY NEEDED: YOUR AD IN THIS SPACE. IT'S STILL FREE AND it gets results. Easy payment terms -- nothing down and nothing a month for a year. Send it in for the next issue. REMEMBER, S.G.C.A. ADS GET RESULTS

WANTED: Shotguns, single shot 22 caliber rifles, would like them in good condition. Don hills, 1131 - 5th Avenue N.W., Moose Jaw.

WANTED: Powder and shot scoop measures, powderhorns, shot flasks. Ray King, 3602 Argyle Road, Regina, Sask.

WANTED: Links for model 73 Winchester, also an Enfield-Snider .577 with Side Lug. Ron Hill, 27 Fairford St. W., Moose Jaw, Sask.

WANTED: Stevens Rifles for my collection, also want Stevens cartridges and boxes, catalogues or accessories. John Livingston, Sintaluta, Sask.

IMPORTANT NEW AD SERVICE: If you lack postage to send in an ad, write to box 1334 Regina, Sask. and a stamped addressed envelope will be sent out immediately.

WANTED TO BUY OR BORROW: Coocy rifles and shotguns, Tobin Rifles and Shotguns for research purposes. Information on models, serial numbers, brand names, and grades, catalogues and advertisements of above. 25¢ IN STAMPS OR COIN FOR NEW CARTRIDGE LIST. Revised and greatly enlarged list of cartridges for collectors. Also want cartridges for my collection and re-sale. Nick Krevoshcia, 12231 - 137th / Ave. Edmonton, Alta.

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S.G.C.A.

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ARE
PAYABLE NOW
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BOX 1334 REGINA

LEVER ARMS SERVICE
761 Dunsmuir St.
Vancouver, B. C.

Fresh load Kynock ammunition just in from Britain

577/450 Martini Henry ammunition 4.95 a box of ten

577 Snider Enfield ammunition 4.95 a box of ten

577 BLANK CARTRIDGES for either the 577 Snider or the 577/450

Martini Henry.. A scarce cartridge for the shooter or collector

3.00 a box of ten.

Colt Single Action Army Revolver, 4 3/4" barrel, current production, walnut grips, calibre 357 Magnum.. In as new condition only 130.00

Another shipment of Replica Arms revolvers just arrived. The 1860 44 cal Army, the 1861 36 cal Navy and the 31 cal Baby Dragoon can all be delivered from Vancouver stock at 100.00

Three Colt 32 cal New Pocket revolvers, 6 shots 2½" barrel
One in excellent condition, bright blue finish, small chip from one grip 35.00

The second, with slight wear to finish, and one ring of pitting in barrel, slight chip from two grips 32.50

The third, nickel finish, some wear, bore good with one rough area, both grips chipped 29.50

These early swing out cylinder guns are priced well below current market.

Hi Standard Sport King 22 automatic 6½" barrel, used in good condition 40.00

Argentine Army Cavalry Lances, 10½ feet long in very good condition, and only \$10.00 each while they last.

An old German POTSDAM percussion musket, complete with ramrod, front barrel band retaining spring missing, otherwise very good condition. 70.00

Stevens Model 24 combination rifle/shotgun in 410 gauge and 22 rimfire magnum, brand new and marked down to 45.00.

Long Lee Enfield rifles, in various models, Mark 1, Mark 1* , and the Charger loading model, windage sight missing from all of them Condition about good, but require extensive cleaning after years of storage. Your choice of model for 24.50.

ASTRA

CADIX

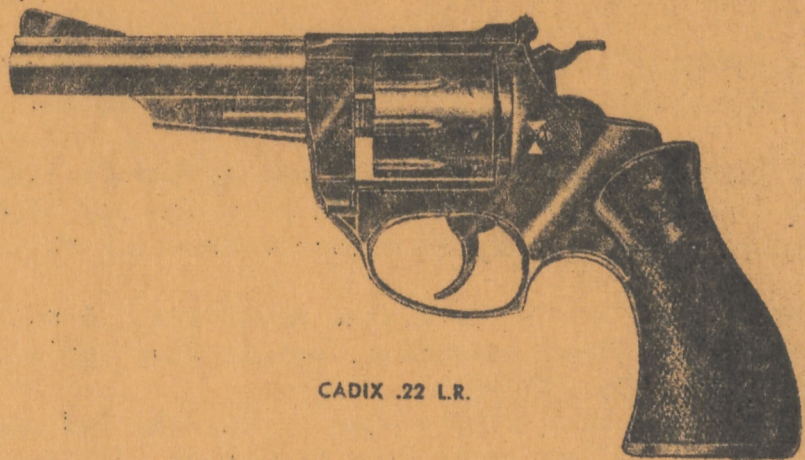
REVOLVERS

49:50

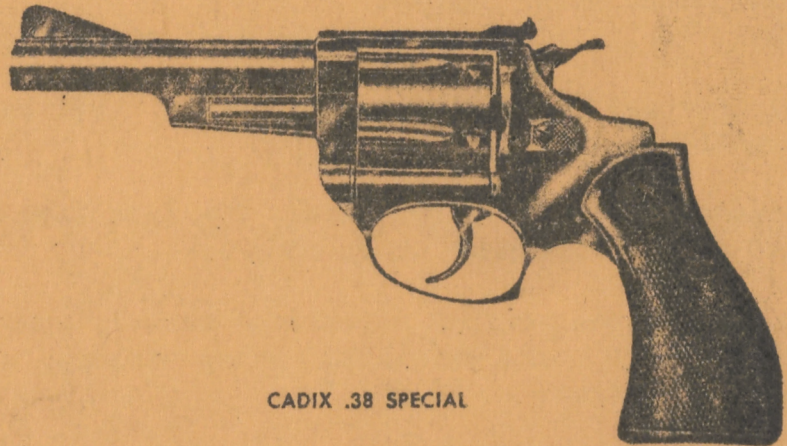
Cadix revolvers in calibers .38 special and .22 L.R. with 4" or 6" barrels have serrated front sights and rear sights adjustable for windage and elevation. Grips are one piece, checkered unbreakable plastic. They are machined steel throughout and finished in deep blue.

The Cadix .38 special or .22 L.R. with a 2 inch barrel has a tapered ramp front sight and a square notch rear sight. The compact grips are of checkered walnut. This model is ideal for law enforcement and home defense.

- 9 shots in .22 L.R. Caliber
- 5 shots in .38 Special Caliber
- Swing out cylinder
- Shrouded ejector rod
- Highest quality throughout



CADIX .22 L.R.



CADIX .38 SPECIAL

Lever Arms Service

761 DUNSMUIR
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.



*A*lways at Christmas time, there comes
that special delight in extending to our
many friends the greetings of the Season.
This year, more so than ever before, we
appreciate the good will that exists.

It is with this fine relationship in mind that we wish
you the fullest measure of Yuletide cheer
and happiness and a prosperous and
healthy New Year.

Lloyd Dobrescu

President

S. G. C. A.

